NUNEZ-REGUEIRO et al.
Appl. No. 10/797,561
December 20, 2006

OEC 20 2006

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 21, 2006. This amendment after final should be entered and place the application in condition for allowance because the only independent claims left pending have already been allowed by the Examiner.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-21 and 37-40. While applicant does not agree with the art rejections set forth in the Office Action, all independent claims that were rejected have been canceled without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution. Thus, the only independent claims now pending (i.e., claims 1, 7, 12, 17, and 37) have already been allowed by the Examiner. Because all pending independent claims have been allowed, the application is now in condition for allowance.

If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERTIYE P.C.

By:

Joseph A. Rhoa Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj 901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor Arlington, VA 22203-1808 Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100